

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 /106 W

----- 008167

R 141533Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5208

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0592

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SF, US, PFOR

SUBJ: US SAID TO PLAN TALKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

1. BOTH CAPE TIMES AND ARGUS MAY 14 REPORTED UNDER NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON DATELINES THAT SECY KISSINGER HAD ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO HOLD SERIOUS AND EXTENSIVE TALKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA DURING SENATE TESTIMONY MAY 13.

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WM CAPE TIMES SAID "PRESSED BY LIBERAL SENATORS TO "FACE"

THE SOUTH AFRICA AND SOUTH WEST AFRICA PROBLEMS AS HE HAD DONE WITH RHODESIA, DR. KISSINGER STRESSED THAT AFRICAN LEADERS MADE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

"WE PLAN TO START SERIOUS DISCUSSION WITH SOUTH AFRICA ON THE EVOLUTION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA,' HE SAID. THIS EVOLUTION WAS AS MUCH IN SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERESTS AS ANYONE'S, HE ADDED.

"HE BLOCKED ALL PROBING ON SOUTH WEST AFRICA. SOUTH AFRICA HAD TO BE CONSULTED FIRST, HE SAID--"OUR POLICY CAN'T BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT MORE SERIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA'."

3. ARGUS COMMENTED THAT THIS WAS DEPARTURE FROM TWO DECADES OF TREATING SOUTH AFRICA AS A PARIAH WHILE TRYING TO DEAL UNDER THE TABLE ON MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST. PAPER ATTRIBUTED CHANGE TO FACT THAT PM VORSTER HAD BUILT IMPROVED RELATIONSHIP WITH FOUR AFRICAN LEADERS, KAUNDA, NYERERE, KHAMA AND MACHEL, BY CONSTRUCTIVE STAND ON RHODESIA. THIS RELATIONSHIP HAD PLAYED ROLE IN DECISION OF FOUR TO AVOID HAVING ANY OUTSIDE POWERS HAVING DIRECT DEALINGS WITH RHODESIAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, AS OUTLINED TO COMMITTEE BY DR. KISSINGER. ARGUS ADDED "BOTH HIS PROPOSAL TO EMBARK ON SERIOUS TALKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND HIS POSITION ON LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WERE A SLAP IN THE FACE FOR SENATOR DICK CLARK OF IOWA. CHAIRMAN OF SENATE'S AFRICAN SUB-COMMITTEE WHO WAS MAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR CHECKING AMERICAN AID TO THE WESTERN-BACKER FACTIONS IN ANGOLA... (CLARK) AT ONE POINT REMONSTRATED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS THE GREATEST PROBLEM OF ALL."

4. EMBASSY HAS HAD ONE SPECIFIC PRESS INQUIRY FOR DETAILS OF U.S. THOUGHTS. WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE FOR REPLY. BOWDLER

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